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RCE 160  
PTO/SB/30 (10-01)  
#20  
KJ  
3-19-02**REQUEST**

FOR

**CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:  
Commissioner for Patents  
Box RCE  
Washington, DC 20231

|                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/489,079                |
| Filing Date            | January 21, 2000          |
| First Named Inventor   | Patricia A. Billing-Medel |
| Art Unit               | 1635                      |
| Examiner Name          | J. L. Epps                |
| Attorney Docket Number | 6451.US.P1                |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

## 1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a.  Previously submitted
- i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on December 3, 2001  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
  - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Enclosed
- i.  Amendment/Reply
  - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
  - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

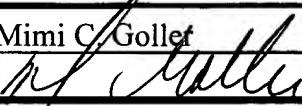
## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)          | 03/12/2002 BNGUYEN1 00000169 010025 09489079 |
| ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) | 01 FC:179 740.00 CH                          |
| iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |  |
- b.  Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

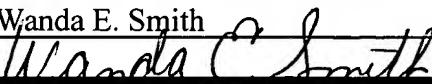
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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

|                   |   |                                   |              |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Mimi C. Gollet  | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 39,046       |
| Signature         |  | Date                              | Feb 26, 2002 |

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Name (Print/Type) | Wanda E. Smith  |
| Signature         |  |
| Date              | 2/26/02   |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.